

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5           An Airway Management Apparatus (AMA) and method for  
easing the breathing and aiding the alignment of the oral,  
pharyngeal, and laryngeal axes of the airway of an obese  
individual in the supine position. The AMA includes an  
upper-body support, and a head and neck support having a  
partially concave and partially convex surface coupled to  
the upper-body support. The AMA eases breathing by raising  
the individual's upper body at an angle, causing the  
10 individual's abdominal mass to fall away from the  
diaphragm. The AMA provides a support for the individual's  
neck to be extended, and for the head to be rotated  
backwards, to aid in the alignment of the oral, pharyngeal,  
and laryngeal axes of the individual's airway.